

REMARKS

Claims 5-7 and 12-14 are pending. Claims 1-4, 8-11, and 15 have been cancelled herein, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 5-7 and 12-14 are objected to.

Claims 5-6 and 12-13 are amended herein, without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is believed to be added by present amendments.

Reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks and accompanying amendments.

Claim Rejection – 35 U.S.C. §101

The rejection of claim 15 is moot in view of the cancellation of the claim.

Double Patenting Rejections

Claims 1-15 stand provisionally rejected under non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-10, 12-18, and 21 of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 11/663,318, and over claims 4-10 and 14-21 of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 11/665,302.

In response, Applicants hereby submit terminal disclaimers in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.321(c). Applicants request withdrawal of this rejection in view of the terminal disclaimers.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103

The rejections of claims 1-4, 8-11, and 15 are moot in view of the cancellation of these claims.

Claims 5-7 and 12-14 are objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims. The Examiner indicated that they would be allowable if they are rewritten into an independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

In response, claims 5 and 12 are rewritten into independent claims, including all of the limitations of their base claims and intervening claims. Claims 5 and 12 are also amended to provide antecedent basis, and claims 6 and 13 are amended to correct obvious errors and provide antecedent basis. Claims 6-7 depend from claim 5, and claims 13-14 depend from claim 12. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 5-7 and 12-14 are now allowable.

Conclusion

Applicants believe they have addressed all outstanding grounds raised by the Examiner and respectfully submit that the present case is in condition for allowance, early notification of which is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any questions or outstanding matters, the Examiner is cordially invited and requested to contact Applicants' undersigned agent at her number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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